

[REDACTED]

august 01, 1987

**SAUDI ARABIA-IRAN: Rioting in Mecca**

According to Saudi and Iranian press reports, Iranians attending the Hajj—the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca—violently clashed with other pilgrims and Saudi security forces yesterday. Unconfirmed reports indicate at least 23 dead, an unknown number injured, and several cars burned. The Saudi Government has appealed for calm. Tehran is lodging a protest with Riyadh over the incident. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Saudis would like to avoid further confrontation with Iranian pilgrims but remain determined to maintain order during the Hajj. [REDACTED]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

MAR 1998